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such as publicity, the initiative, referendum and recall; civil service, preferential voting and the limitations, objections and advantages of the commission plan.

In the appendix are given the preferential ballot provisions of the Grand Junction plan, the text of the Iowa law—the Des Moines plan—and an excellent list of references.

The author has used every available source for his information. Statutes, court decisions, newspapers, pamphlets, letters, periodical literature, commission charters, reports of commission cities, all have received able and proportionate attention. More than this the author has personally visited many of the leading commission cities and has astutely analyzed local situations and results. The work is scholarly and of eminent merit.

The author looks for the wide-spread adoption of the plan because of its simplicity, effectiveness and adaptation to modern municipal needs. He has examined results with care and overthrows the cry that is used when arguments fail—that the commission plan is still an experiment. He finds that it has aroused public spirit and self-effort and that it has and will lead to responsive and efficient government.

CLYDE L. KING.

University of Pennsylvania.

Brode, H. *British and German East Africa.* Pp. xiv, 175. Price, \$2.10. New York: Longmans, Green & Co., 1911.

Dr. Brode, for many years in charge of the German consulates at Zanzibar and Mombasa, gives us, in this small volume, a personal estimate of the progress and promise of two closely related tropical colonies. The story is told simply, and directly, and it will be a surprise to many readers to learn that these two colonies cover a region of about 700,000 square miles in area, say equal to our North Central States from Ohio to North Dakota and Kansas, and have a population of 15,000,000.

In this region of exceedingly great promise there are dense tropical forests in the plateau scarp and tall mountains; gold in the Tabora reef; copra and sugar cane at the coast, and mangrove swamps for cutch; sheep and cattle on the great plains, and ostrich farming begun; rice in the flat land round Lake Victoria; exceedingly fine prospects for cotton in an area half as large as that in our own southern states; coffee; rubber, both native and from transplanted Brazilian trees; sisal of the highest quality, with an available area larger than that in Yucatan; and oats, barley, wheat, apples and strawberries, in Uganda and other highlands.

It is good to know that the Germans have taken their science and ample education with them, and have established state schools quite generally, which "soon came into favor with the natives, after they had realized that no propaganda was to be taught." All the schools in the British protectorates are in the hands of the missionaries. Both British and German colonies have established agricultural experiment stations, and there is the most neighborly co-operation in every line, looking to the improvement of conditions in the colonies. The Uganda railway from Mombasa, and the Usumbara railway in the German colony, running inland from Daressalam, are of the highest importance in the

development of the region. There is good steamboat service on Lake Victoria, and regular lines of steamers, both English and German, between the colonies and Europe.

It is easy to believe that we are here witnessing the first stages in the making of two great nations.

J. PAUL GOODE.

University of Chicago.

The Cambridge Medieval History. Volume I. Pp. xxii, 754. Price, \$5.00.
New York: Macmillan Company, 1911.

The present work, planned by Professor J. B. Bury and edited by Professor H. M. Gwatkin and the Rev. J. P. Whitney, has long been a desideratum. Drawn up on the same general plan as the "Cambridge Modern History" and enjoying the co-operation of recognized specialists in each topic discussed, it will occupy a place to itself, as no comprehensive work on the Middle Ages satisfying the demands of modern scholarship exists at present in any language. The nearest approach to such a work is Lavissee and Rambaud's "Histoire générale," where, however, but three volumes are devoted to the period which will here be treated in eight. The first volume of the present series covers the two hundred years from Constantine to Justinian and is divided into twenty-one chapters apportioned among twenty contributors. This minute subdivision, while satisfactory in the treatment of the Teutonic migrations, occasions a regrettable lack of continuity in regard to the ecclesiastical phases of the period.

In the first chapter, Professor Gwatkin, after discussing the proper line of separation between ancient and medieval history, takes up "Constantine and his City" and gives a general survey of his reign. Then comes a chapter on "The Reorganization of the Empire" by Professor Reid, where, after the dreary catalogue of imperial officials, follows the only adequate account in English of the financial administration and system of taxation in the later empire. Mr. Norman H. Baynes' account of "Constantine's Successors to Jovian" is followed by Principal Lindsay's discussion of "The Triumph of Christianity," which brings out, though with scarcely enough fullness, the essential syncretism of the new religion in the fourth century and the dying out of popular paganism through the absorption of many of its features by Christianity. The religious history of the Nicene period is completed by a chapter on "Arianism" by Professor Gwatkin, and another on "The Organization of the Church" by Mr. C. H. Turner, wherein the later conciliar organization and the origin of canon law are emphasized rather than the question of the origin of the episcopate.

Chapters VII to XVI are devoted to the barbarians and the empire. Under "Expansion of the Teutons" Dr. Martin Bang discusses their original home, their relations with the Kelts and Romans and their movements up to 378 A. D. Mr. Baynes gives us the history of the "Dynasty of Valentinian and Theodosius." "The Teutonic Migrations, 378-412," are described by Dr. Manitius of Dresden. Chapter X, "The Teutonic Kingdoms in Gaul," is divided between Professors Schmidt and Pfister, the former taking up the Visigoths to the death of Euric and the latter the Franks before Clovis with some account of their legal and political organization. To Professor Schmidt is also assigned the